

**In the Claims –**

1. In claim 2, replace the words “a cutting means” with the words – a plurality of ribs adapted –.
2. In claim 2, replace the word “any” with the words – a bladed –.
3. In claim 7, after the words “a first partition” add the words – having a center – .

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1. (Original). A construction layout stripping comprising:
  - a. a pliable, non-elastic elongated base;
  - b. repeating units disposed on the base, the repeating units having a plurality of pairs of uprights thereon on a single fixed spacing interval, each pair of uprights adapted to define a partition for grippingly receiving a specified size of construction member, whereby, construction elements can be built of various sized construction members spaced apart at a single fixed interval without the need to measure and mark the spacing, and the members can be held in place while being fixedly attached to the construction element.

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2. (Currently amended). The construction layout stripping of claim 1 having on the base cutting ribs that provide a ~~cutting means~~ plurality of ribs adapted to allow a user to make a clean cut at a desired length with any a bladed type of cutting device.

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3. (Original). The strip of claim 1 where the base is comprised of two layers; first, an elastic layer; and second, a non-elastic layer, the two layers being bonded together.

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4. (Original). The construction layout stripping of claim 1, the base having a sticky surface for more securely grippingly engaging construction members placed into the partitions defined thereon.

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5. (Original). The construction layout stripping of claim 1, the base having a sticky surface for grippingly engaging a surface to which it is being applied.

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6. (Original). The construction layout stripping of claim 1 where the repeating units have partitions spaced apart so as to create the ability to space construction members on more than one spacing interval using the same stripping.

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7. (Currently amended). The construction layout stripping of claim 1, the repeating units having a set of partitions, each of which is adapted to receive a  $1 \frac{5}{8}$ " framing member, the set comprising:

- a. a first partition having a center;
- b. a second partition, having a center which is 16" from the center of the first partition;
- c. a third partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the second partition;
- d. a fourth partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the third partition;
- e. a sufficient length of base so that the center of the fourth partition is 16" from a center of the first partition of the next repeating unit,

whereby a user can place  $1 \frac{5}{8}$ " framing members on either 16" or 24" centers.



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8. (Original). The repeating units of claim 1 having a set of partitions, each of which is adapted to receive a  $3\frac{5}{8}$ " framing member, the set comprising:

- a. a first partition;
- b. a second partition, having a center which is 16" from the center of the first partition;
- c. a third partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the second partition;
- d. a fourth partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the third partition;
- e. a sufficient length of base so that the center of the fourth partition is 16" from a center of the first partition of the next repeating unit,

whereby a user can place  $3\frac{5}{8}$ " framing members on either 16" or 24" centers.

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9. (Original). The repeating units of claim 1 having a set of partitions, each of which is adapted to receive a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " framing member, the set comprising:

- a. a first partition;
- b. a second partition, having a center which is 16" from the center of the first partition;
- c. a third partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the second partition;
- d. a fourth partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the third partition;
- e. a sufficient length of base so that the center of the fourth partition is 16" from a center of the first partition of the next repeating unit,

whereby a user can place  $\frac{1}{2}$ " framing members on either 16" or 24" centers.

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10. (Original). The construction layout stripping of claim 1 having more than one set of partitions adapted to receive more than one size of construction member and to allow for more than one spacing interval for each size of member.

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11. (Original). The construction layout stripping of claim 10 where partitions associated with each size of member and each spacing interval have a consistent identifier means for noting which interval and member they relate to which is different from the identifier means for other construction members and for different spacing intervals.

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12. (Original). The strip of claim 1 having the following repeating units on the same construction layout stripping where adjoining partitions share a common upright, the strip comprising:

- a. a set of partitions, each of which adapted to receive a  $1 \frac{5}{8}$ " framing member, the set including:
  - i. a first partition,
  - ii. a second partition, having a center which is 16" from the center of the first partition,
  - iii. a third partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the second partition,
  - iv. a fourth partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the third partition,
  - v. a sufficient length of base so that the center of the fourth partition is 16" from a center of the first partition of the next repeating unit;
- b. a set of partitions adjacent to the  $1 \frac{5}{8}$ " partitions, each of which is adapted to receive a  $3 \frac{5}{8}$ " framing member, the set including:
  - i. a first partition,
  - ii. a second partition, having a center which is 16" from the center of the first partition,
  - iii. a third partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the second partition,

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- iv. a fourth partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the third partition,
- v. a sufficient length of base so that the center of the fourth partition is 16" from a center of the first partition of the next repeating unit;
- c. a set of partitions adjacent to the  $1 \frac{5}{8}$ " partitions, each of which is adapted to receive a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " framing member, the set including:
  - i. a first partition,
  - ii. a second partition, having a center which is 16" from the center of the first partition,
  - iii. a third partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the second partition,
  - iv. a fourth partition, having a center which is 8" from the center of the third partition,
  - v. a sufficient length of base so that the center of the fourth partition is 16" from a center of the first partition of the next repeating unit, whereby a user can place  $1 \frac{5}{8}$ ",  $3 \frac{5}{8}$ ", or  $\frac{1}{2}$ " framing members on 16" or 24" centers using the same construction layout stripping.

whereby a user can place  $1 \frac{5}{8}$ ",  $3 \frac{5}{8}$ ", or  $\frac{1}{2}$ " framing members on 16" or 24" centers using the same construction layout stripping.

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13. (Original). A method of assembling construction members comprising the steps of:
- a. providing the construction layout stripping of claim 1;
  - b. placing more than one construction member into the partitions adapted to closely, grippingly receive the construction members at the desired fixed interval; and
  - c. affixing the members in place at the desired interval.

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14. (Original). The method of claim 12 where the construction layout stripping is provided on a roll.
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Respectfully submitted,

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Edward L. White  
Registration No.: 41,375  
Edward L. White, P.C.  
50 Penn Place, Suite 440  
Oklahoma City, OK 73118-1803  
Phone: 405/810-8188  
Fax: 405/842-0336  
E-mail: ewhite@resourceful.com

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